INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY   USSR (Lithuanian SSR)

SUBJECT   Panevezys Airfield

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

1. Panevezys military airfield, located 2 to 3 km west to southwest of Panevezys (55°44'N/24°22'E), Lithuanian S.S.R., and 2 to 3 km south of the railroad line leading from Panevezys to Siaulyai (55°56'N/23°18'E), was built before the war. The field, situated on level terrain, can be extended to all sides. The E-W dimension of the field was about 2 km. The landing field had a firm grass cover. No taxiways were observed. There was an E-W runway. The length of the runway was about the same as that of the field. No aircraft revetments were seen. Boundary lights were apparently available.

2. Buildings at the field included a red four-story barracks building, about 50 meters long, which had been gutted by fire, on the northern edge of the field; and four or five low wooden buildings, each 20x40 meters, east and west of the barracks building. The low wooden buildings were occupied by Soviets, allegedly pilot candidates.

3. The field was occupied by 20 to 30 twin-engine aircraft with single rudder assemblies and engines which projected considerably far beyond the leading edges of the wings. Flying was practiced in formations of four to five planes after individual take-offs. The largest formation observed consisted of 20 planes. No parachuting or firing was observed.

4. An air force headquarters and air force officers were allegedly quartered in a four-story building, called Republikas Gatre, in Panevezys. The unit stationed there was allegedly supplied from Vilnyus by trucks.

5. An airfield was located 2 km east of Panevezys on the right side of the Uzvony-Panevezys road, 2 to 3 km from the railroad line from Vagant. Twin-engine transports, biplanes, and fighters were observed there.

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